

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services
National Center for Import/Export Products
4700 River Road, Unit 40
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), regulates the importation of animals and animal-derived materials to ensure that exotic animal and poultry diseases are not introduced into the United States.

Generally, a USDA veterinary permit is needed for materials derived from animals or exposed to animal-source materials. Materials which require a permit include animal tissues, blood, cells or cell lines of livestock or poultry origin, RNA/DNA extracts, hormones, enzymes, monoclonal antibodies for IN VIVO use in non-human species, certain polyclonal antibodies, antisera, bulk shipments of test kit reagents, and microorganisms including bacteria, viruses, protozoa, and fungi. Exceptions to this requirement are human and non-human primate tissues, serum, and blood. Various other animal materials which require a permit include dairy products (except butter and cheese), and meat products (e.g., meat pies, prepared foods) from countries with livestock diseases exotic to the U.S. To apply for a permit for the importation of an animal product or an animal by-product visit <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/permits/>.

User fees are charged for all import services for restricted animal products. All applications for a veterinary permit to import controlled materials or transport organisms and vectors must be accompanied by payment before processing can begin. Acceptable methods of payment are: check or money order (payable to USDA, APHIS), Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or APHIS User Fee Credit Account. User fee accounts are recommended if there are more than 6 fee activities per year. Please see below for information on establishing a user fee account.

*The schedule of primary user fees are as follows (from 9 CFR, Part 130.8):

<u>Service</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Processing original application	\$94.00
Processing application for renewal	\$61.00
Processing amended application	\$47.00
Import compliance assistance per shipment on hold	\$180.00

*Please note all fees are subject to change.

Import permit applications may also be obtained through the Automated Document Retrieval System by calling Area Code (301) 734-4952, or by writing the Animal Products Program at:

USDA, APHIS, VS, NCIE
Products Program
4700 River Road, Unit 40
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

For further information please contact the Animal Products Program at (301) 734-3277 or by facsimile at (301) 734-8226.

Establishing a User Fee Credit Account with APHIS

An account can be established by requesting an application from the following:

USDA, APHIS, ART		User Fee Helpline
P.O. Box 3334	-or-	1-877-777-2128
Minneapolis, MN 55403		or (612) 370-2291

A form can also be downloaded from the following web site:
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/library/forms>, select: "APHIS 192".